

WASHINGTON, D.C. - President Bush on Tuesday vetoed the appropriations bill that would fund the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education and Health and Human Services.

The president's veto threatens not only vital national programs, it also threatens Central Coast programs ranging from gang prevention and healthy schools to diabetes prevention and science education.

Rep. Sam Farr (D-Carmel) released the following statement:

"The president vetoed this bill because it dares to support domestic programs rather than the war in Iraq. This is an appalling abuse of the president's power. He has proved once again that he values the war in Iraq over our domestic needs.

"The president did more than turn aside a piece of legislation. He vetoed funds to address Monterey County's gang problem. He vetoed a diabetes prevention program at Natividad Hospital. He vetoed a healthy foods initiative for Salinas Valley schools. He showed us again that his values are not our values.

"This is the worst sort of partisanship. The president wails that an extra \$20 billion for domestic programs is unacceptable while at the same time demanding \$200 billion for his ill-conceived war. It's now up to Congress to turn aside the president's veto.

"I also hope the president reconsiders his opposition to other important funding bills, but I doubt he will. They would fund the very programs he has gutted during his time in office."

###